

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No.: 09/415,201

Attorney Docket No.: Q56206

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application. Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 have been objected to but would be allowed if rewritten into independent form. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 9-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Florent et al. (US 5,675,380).

Claims 3 and 7 have been rewritten in independent form. Consequently, claims 3 and 7 and dependent claims 4 and 8 should be deemed patentable. Claims 9-13 have been rewritten to depend upon allowable claim 7. Consequently, claims 9-15 should also be deemed allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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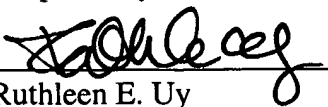
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Date: September 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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